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NOV 24 2000

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sequences of a given length according to the free energy of binding of each oligonucleotide to its complement, and (b) selecting a subset of consecutive oligonucleotides within the ordered set.

Sub 27
21. (Amended) The kit of claim 20 wherein each probe set contains from 50 to 10,000 different different-sequence, single-stranded oligonucleotide[s] probes.

Sub 17
22. (Amended) The kit of claim 20 wherein for at least one said probe set, the different-sequence, single stranded oligonucleotide[s] probes in that set have annealing temperatures whose maximum and minimum values differ from each other by no more than 1°C.

32. The kit of claim 20, wherein the oligonucleotide probes are 8 to 12 nucleotides in length.--

33. (Amended) The kit of claim 23 wherein [said different-sequence, single-stranded] the oligonucleotide[s] probes have lengths of 8, 9, or 12 nucleotides.

34. (Amended) The kit of claim 26 ³/₁, further including one or more initializing oligonucleotides and one or more solid phase supports having templates attached thereto, the templates each comprising a target polynucleotide having a binding region capable of forming a perfectly matched duplex with one or more of the initializing oligonucleotides.

35. (Amended) The kit of claim [26] ³/₁, wherein each probe set contains 50 to 500 different-sequence, single-stranded oligonucleotide[s] probes.

36. (Amended) The kit of claim 29 wherein at least one selected range of annealing temperatures spans [defines] a 1°C interval.

In the Drawings:

N/E
Enclosed are copies of formal drawings submitted in parent application 08/424,663, now U.S. Patent No. 5,750,341. Margins are corrected and characters clarified, as required in Form PTO 948, dated 7/6/99.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office action mailed August 16, 2000 is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 20-31 are currently under examination. By the present amendment, claims 26 and 31 are cancelled, and new claim 32 is added.